



Community College Property Tax Revenue

Iowa's 15 community college districts are permitted to levy taxes against the value of taxable property within the boundaries of each district. In addition to the General Levy, there are currently eight special purpose levies available to the colleges under specific circumstances. Six of the nine levies require simple board approval; the three exceptions are noted below.

In FY 2012, statewide community college revenue from property tax levies will total \$109.6 million, an increase of 2.7% compared to FY 2011. Since FY 2002, statewide property tax revenue for community colleges has increased 95.3%. In 2010, the last reported year, property tax revenue represented 11.7% of budgeted community college revenue.

Property Tax Levies

The following are the levies available to the community colleges and the rate restrictions for each:

- General – to fund the general operation of the college. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 in valuation.
- Tort Liability – to fund tort-related settlements. Limited to the amount necessary.
- Insurance – to fund insurance premiums for loss of property, environmental hazards, or other risks. Limited to amount necessary.
- Unemployment Compensation – to fund unemployment benefits for college employees. Limited to amount necessary.
- Early Retirement – to fund early retirement benefits for college employees. Limited to amount necessary.
- Equipment – to fund equipment replacement, program sharing, and instructional equipment. Limited to \$0.03000 per \$1,000 in valuation for equipment replacement. Board may seek voter approval for additional \$0.06000 per \$1,000 in valuation for program sharing and instructional equipment.
- Standby – to secure the payment of certificates for the Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program. Limited to \$0.27000 per \$1,000 in valuation.
- Plant – to fund major building repair, grounds, construction, libraries, and utilities. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 valuation. Requires voter approval.
- Bond and Interest – to fund principal and interest on bonds. Limited to the amount necessary. Requires 60.0% voter approval.

Current Use of Levies

For FY 2012, six of the nine levies are used by all of the colleges, while the Unemployment Levy is used by 11, the Early Retirement levy is used by 13, the Standby Levy is used by six, and the Bond and Interest Levy is used by eight. All 15 colleges levy at the maximum allowable rates for the General and Plant levies, as well as the maximum voter-approved rate for Equipment Replacement. **Table 1** shows the FY 2012 levy rates by college and levy.

More Information

Condition of Community College Reports:

http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1663&catid=183&Itemid=2471

Department of Management Local Budget and Finance Information: <http://www.dom.state.ia.us/local/>

Iowa General Assembly: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>

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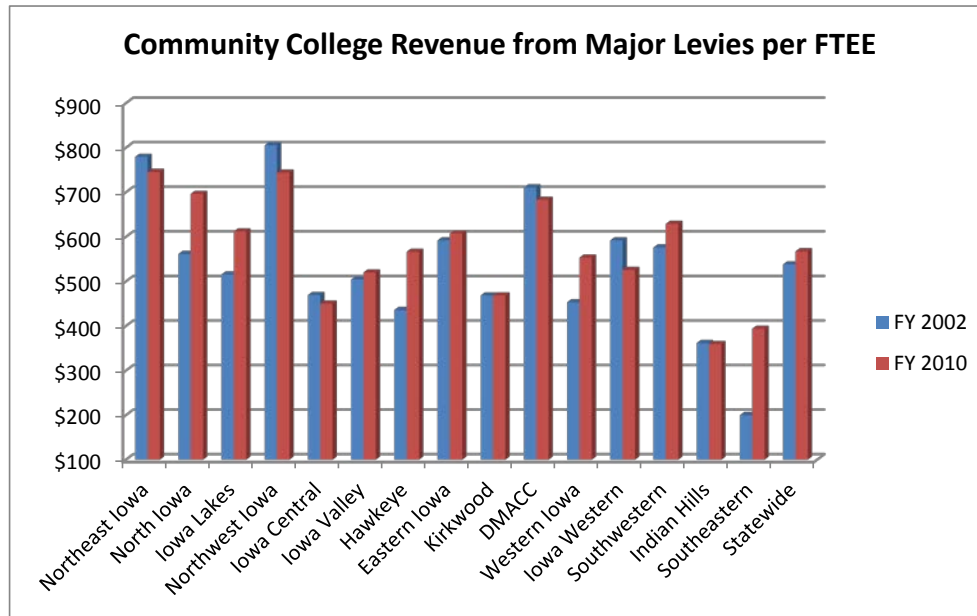
Table 1
FY 2012 Community College Property Tax Levy Rates

College	General	Unemployment	Tort Liability	Insurance	Early Retirement	Equipment	Standby	Plant	Bonds/Interest	Total
Northeast Iowa	\$0.20250	\$0.00281	\$0.01800	\$0.04185		\$0.09000	\$0.12880	\$0.20250	\$0.38733	\$1.07379
North Iowa	0.20250	0.00934	0.01528	0.03566	0.08916	0.09000	0.01817	0.20250		0.66261
Iowa Lakes	0.20250	0.00200	0.04698	0.12993	0.06996	0.09000	0.02499	0.20250		0.76886
Northwest Iowa	0.20250		0.03275	0.02784	0.09499	0.09000		0.20250		0.65058
Iowa Central	0.20250	0.00762	0.06097	0.05792	0.05335	0.09000		0.20250	0.19663	0.87149
Iowa Valley	0.20250	0.01498	0.02322	0.26313	0.13263	0.09000	0.02490	0.20250	1.00296	1.95682
Hawkeye	0.20250		0.00520	0.05845	0.04250	0.09000		0.20250	0.36000	0.96115
Eastern Iowa	0.20250	0.00292	0.02002	0.01333	0.07571	0.09000	0.00520	0.20250	0.40506	1.01724
Kirkwood	0.20250	0.00851	0.00736	0.09783	0.19000	0.09000		0.20250	0.20000	0.99870
DMACC	0.20250	0.00418	0.00746	0.06862	0.01492	0.09000		0.20250		0.59018
Western Iowa	0.20250	0.00728	0.04425	0.17295	0.05921	0.09000		0.20250		0.77869
Iowa Western	0.20250	0.00758	0.01326	0.05720		0.09000		0.20250	0.23731	0.81035
Southwest Iowa	0.20250	0.00384	0.01922	0.06919	0.13453	0.09000	0.07303	0.20250		0.79481
Indian Hills	0.20250		0.07881	0.13169	0.18873	0.09000		0.20250		0.89423
Southeast	0.20250		0.06813	0.14320	0.11396	0.09000		0.20250	0.19849	1.01878

Property Tax Revenue per FTEE

Between FY 2002 and FY 2010, the General, Equipment, and Plant Levies were the largest, most consistently used levies across Iowa. Total statewide revenue from those levies grew by \$15.6 million. Revenue from those levies per full-time equivalent enrollment (FTEE) grew from \$538 in FY 2002 to \$567 in FY 2010. **Chart 1** shows the revenue per FTEE from the three levies by college for FY 2002 and FY 2010. (Note: FY 2010 FTEE is the latest available.)

Chart 1

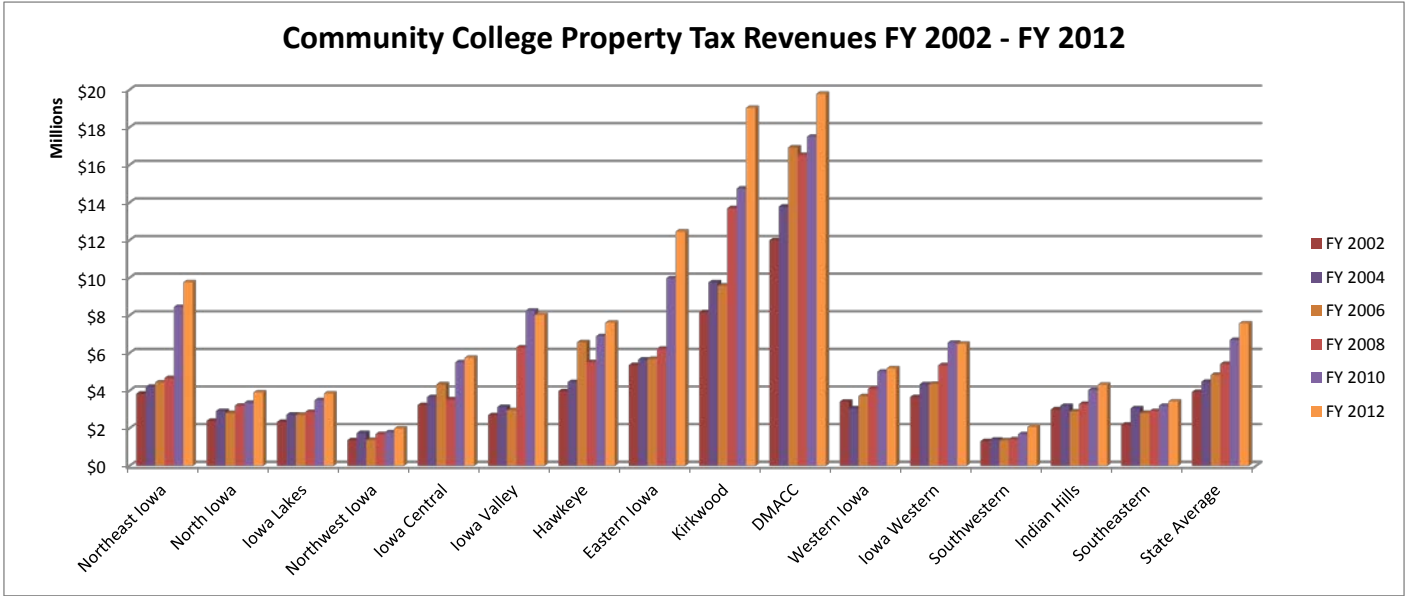


Total Revenue from Property Tax Levies

Between FY 2002 and FY 2012, property tax revenue for each college has increased. There have been minor annual fluctuations and some significant annual increases among the colleges. **Chart 2** shows the trend in growth of property tax revenue by college between FY 2002 and FY 2012.

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Chart 2



Taxable Valuation

Between FY 2002 and FY 2010, total statewide taxable valuation (not including utility replacement) increased by \$23.4 billion to a total of \$115.5 billion. However, over the same period, valuation per FTEE declined by \$26,000 statewide. **Chart 3** shows the taxable valuation per FTEE by college for FY 2002 and FY 2010.

Chart 3

